THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH:) Out of a total number of 607 colonies water supply is still to be provided in 227 colonies. Works are in progress in respect of 61 colonies and schemes have been prepared in respect of 46 colonies.

Shut down of ammonia plant of FACT

2543. SHRI THOMAS KUTHIRAVATTOM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ammonia plant of the Fertilizers and Chemicals, Travancore in Kerala was shut down in August and again in September, 1985; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ammonia Plant of Fertilizers and Chemicals, Travancore Limited (FACT) Cochin Division was shut-down from 24th August, 1985 to 9th September, 1985 due to failure of the reformer gas boiler tube and again from 14h September to 16th October, 1985 due to fire at the fuel naphtha avent stock.

Firm in ammonia plant of FACT

2544. SHRI THOMAS KUTHIRAVATTOM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was fire in the ammonia plant of the Cochin Division of Fertiliser and Chemicals Travancore Limited; and

(b) whether the cause of fire has been investigated and if so, what remedial measures were taken to avoid recurrence in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The ceuse of the fire has been investigated by an Expert Committee. According to the Committee, the fire occurred due to malfunctioning of the level controller provided on the Naphtha separator. To avoid recurrence of such incidents, the defective level controller has been replaced; the fuel gas vent has been relocated to a safer place and a high-level alarm has been provided for fuel gas knock-out drum, as a secondary protection system.

Movement of excess foodgrains out of Punjab

2545. SHRI DEBA PRASAD RAY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Economic Times of the 4th September, 1985 captioned "Drive launched to move grains out of Punjab";

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether Government have been able to make headway in the export market in addition to expanding the scope of different programmes like NREP, RLEGP to utilise the huge stock of grains available in the country; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to store the ensuing kharif harvest which is expected to give good yard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Steps have been taken to enhance the level of movement of foodgrains from Punjab. The quantities moved have increased from 6.71 lakh tonnes in August, 1985 to 8.50 lakh tonnes in October, 1985.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Government have exported some foodgrains to other countries, and have also allocated one million tonnes of additional wheat to NREP and RLEGP programmes during 1985-86.

(d) For storing foodgrains steps are being taken to construct, hire additional storage capacity, and improve utilisation.